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MAKING BOY POWER COUNT



U. S. BOYS' WORKING RESERVE

**U. S. EMPLOYMENT SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**

WASHINGTON, D. C.



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THE UNITED STATES BOYS' WORKING RESERVE

America must waste nothing!

Millions of our American soldiers have taught a lesson in democracy and civilization to the vanquished Huns "over there." With the millions of gallant Frenchmen and Englishmen and Italians they have finally won the long, terrible conflict. Thousands of the women, children, and old men in the areas of France and Belgium, freed at last from the grim clutch of the Huns, are endeavoring to rebuild their charred and shattered homes. America must now take the responsibility of feeding them. This vast task demands the full use of all our resources and all our energy for some years to come. America must herself produce more than ever before in her history. America herself must waste nothing.

We must conserve our coal for the hundred needs of peace. Our timberlands and mines must be guarded closely against any waste. Mr. Hoover is directing our steady thrift in the consumption of food. Our manhood is on guard to maintain the just victory it has won. But America must also make full use of her boys over 16 years of age. While we save all our commodities so carefully, we must not waste our youth.

This employment by the United States of its youth to prevent starvation and anarchy and insure orderly free government in Europe involves a heavy responsibility. For the sake of our national future the education of our boyhood must not be curtailed nor its patriotic labor exploited. Yet so great is the shortage of foodstuffs, that American boys should of right be used on our farms in their summer vacations from school, and thus, without interfering in any way with the boys' education, procure the increased production of food so urgently needed by the victorious democracies of the world. To accomplish this double purpose the United States Government has organized the United States Boys' Working Reserve.

to endure aching limbs and sore muscles in field and factory, he will be happy in the consciousness that he has had a real part in insuring the success of democratic government all over the world. His Reserve Badge of Honor granted to him by the United States for his patriotic efforts during the emergencies of war has now become a token of his devotion to the greater cause of humanity.

TO THE PARENTS

Fathers and mothers of the Nation should see to it that their sons are members of the Reserve. The Reserve is entirely voluntary and a boy may be withdrawn from membership at the discretion of the parent. If a boy is in school he will not be taken from his studies, but will be encouraged to utilize his vacation and spare time in training for productive activities. It is the duty of the parents to see that their sons join the Reserve, a duty which is not only patriotic in the narrow sense of strengthening the power of the United States of America, but patriotic in the sense of directly supporting free and just governments all over war-weary Europe.

TO THE EMPLOYER

The Reserve has proved conclusively that, even though inexperienced, the strong, healthy boy, inspired by patriotism, is a capable and adaptable helper in the field and factory. Every employer should remember, however, the limitations of youth. The Reserve has been firm in upholding child-labor laws and in contending for reasonable hours of toil. The Reserve recommends supervision of boy laborers and frequent inspection of working conditions. The boy of to-day is the man of to-morrow, and the future of the Nation depends upon the moral and physical welfare of its boys.

TOIL TO MAINTAIN FREEDOM

Young men, are you standing behind your obligations as Americans? Are you personally helping to build anew upon the charred ruins of civilization a better and freer world?

Fathers and mothers, are you guiding your sons into the paths of greatest usefulness to humanity?

Employers, are you making the greatest possible use of the United States Boys' Working Reserve to feed the starving millions in Europe and Asia Minor?

Young men of America, join the Reserve. Parents of America, indorse the Reserve. Employers of America, use the Reserve.

WILLIAM E. HALL,
National Director.





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WHAT THE RESERVE IS

The United States Boys' Working Reserve is a registered army of patriotic youths, organized under the Department of Labor, with branches in every State in the Union and the Territory of Hawaii. Its purpose is to mobilize for productive service, chiefly upon American farms, all physically fit boys in the United States between the ages of 16 and 20, and to maintain their education and prevent their exploitation while so mobilized.



Enrollment in the Boys' Working Reserve is entirely voluntary. The boy applies to an enrolling officer of the Reserve in any high school or public library in the Nation, or to his Federal State Director. He fills out an enrollment card, obtains the consent of his parent, takes the oath of service, and receives an enrollment badge and a certificate bearing the great seal of the United States. He is then privileged to put on the military National Reserve uniform, with the arm chevron. If he enters the Agricultural Unit he should study the Farm-Craft lessons in school or in the library during the winter. In the spring, after the conclusion of school, he may be sent to a Farm Training Camp, or its equivalent, to study farm practice intensively under expert instruction. He is then assigned to a farm to work for a period arranged by his Federal State Director. His health and moral welfare is carefully supervised by officials of the Reserve, in cooperation with the Y. M. C. A., the Knights of Columbus, the Y. M. H. A., and State Boards of Health. He is quartered at a Supply Camp of the Boys' Working Reserve or with the farmer for whom he works. Upon the satisfactory completion of the period of service for which he enrolled, the minimum limit of which is six weeks of six days a week, of eight hours a day, he receives the Federal Bronze Badge, bearing the Great Seal of the United States. In addition, he may be awarded the Honorable Service Bar for especially long or meritorious service.

If a boy enrolls in the Industrial Unit he pledges the performance of four months' continuous service in the same occupation and under the same management in which he is employed, and the concurrent undertaking of a course in education and training according to plans approved by the National Director of the Boys' Working Reserve. The Boys' Working Reserve, however, earnestly urges all boys in school to remain there.

WHAT THE B. W. R. HAS DONE.

The Boys' Working Reserve was organized in May, 1917. In that year it carried its organization into forty-odd States, brought its program to the attention of the State Councils of Defense in every State in the Union; secured the indorsement of the Governors in all States, and mobilized about 100,000 boys and placed them upon the farms of America.

In 1918 the Boys' Working Reserve completed its organization in every State in the Union, in the District of Columbia, and the Territory of Hawaii; had enrolled and placed upon the farms of the United States about 210,000 boys; had trained intensively, through its Farm-Craft Lessons and its Central Farm Training Camps, about 30,000 high-school boys; and had been indirectly the means of sending thousands of younger boys into food production under State auspices. In 1918 boys in the Boys' Working Reserve raised enough food to feed a million soldiers for a year. The value of this food, which, except through their efforts, would not have been produced, is conservatively estimated at \$75,000,000. This splendid record has convinced the American farmer of the great practical aid that Reserve boys can give in food production, and the indorsements of leading farmers all over the country have been secured.

For the coming year of 1919 the Reserve plans to enroll and place upon American farms 500,000 boys with previous training in the Farm-Craft Lessons and through Central Farm Training Camps or their equivalent. The aim of the organization in 1919 will be to raise enough foodstuffs to help make up the deficit which now exists in the world supply of foodstuffs. The complete organization of the Industrial Unit of the Boys' Working Reserve will soon be effected to safeguard the education and future careers of American boys who are already engaged in industry.



THE CALL TO YOUTH

Never before, even during the height of the war, has the boy had such an opportunity to become a vital factor in history. What he does or fails to do to-day will deeply affect millions of men in Europe for the next 25 years.

He should realize that, having received untold benefits from the freest and best government on earth, he holds his services in trust for the preservation of democracy on which that government rests. The future of the European democracies now depends upon an adequate supply of food. Although he may have

to endure aching limbs and sore muscles in field and factory, he will be happy in the consciousness that he has had a real part in insuring the success of democratic government all over the world. His Reserve Badge of Honor granted to him by the United States for his patriotic efforts during the emergencies of war has now become a token of his devotion to the greater cause of humanity.

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OUR DEBT TO EUROPE

THE WAR is over!

Everywhere the free peoples of the world have shown their joy at the final coming of peace. A great era of freedom and justice lies before the world as a reward for the long years of suffering and sacrifice.

Yet freedom has not yet been won. Liberty, although victorious on the battle field, has not yet been firmly established. Democracy faces its last foe—famine.

America is more fortunate than those of her gallant allies whose farm lands have been ravaged by war. Only America can feed the world, now that peace is come.

What America has suffered in the great war is very little beside what Belgium and France and England have suffered. They saved our civilization from the Huns for four bitter years. With the coming of peace their manhood is decimated, their farms are bare, and their old men, their wounded, their women and children are hungry. They look to us to save them from famine.

President Wilson said that the United States entered this war "to make the world safe for democracy." We stood behind that pledge in 1917 and we stand behind it now. The United States will see that the greatest possible amount of food she can raise shall be sent abroad to feed the other free peoples of Europe—our brothers-in-arms. In addition, many peoples in Europe who for centuries have been enslaved have at last been given their freedom. These newly liberated races are striving to establish orderly governments, but hunger is no friend of order. Hunger is the mother of anarchy and revolt. If Russia, Germany, and Austria are ever to reenter the list of civilized, free nations they must have food.

It is for this great purpose of increasing our food supply and thus helping to establish orderly, free governments everywhere in the world that the United States Boys' Working Reserve will devote its utmost efforts in 1919.

WHAT THE NATION'S LEADERS SAY

"I sincerely hope that the young men of the country, of 16 years and over, not now permanently employed, and especially the boys in our high schools, will enter heartily into this work and join the Boys' Working Reserve in order that they may have the privilege, for such I believe it to be, of spending their spare time in a productive enterprise."—President Wilson.

"It was because we felt there was a tremendous man power that could be organized and utilized in the form of the boys from 16 years and upwards that we undertook the organization of the Boys' Working Reserve."—Secretary of Labor W. B. Wilson.

"The United States' Boys' Working Reserve must be the dominant organization in the effort to mobilize the working boys of the United States."—Herbert C. Hoover, National Food Administrator.

"The achievements of the Boys' Working Reserve are beyond praise. The American Expeditionary Forces thank one and all for the support which you are giving us."—Gen. John J. Pershing.

"The National Grange is unqualifiedly behind the United States' Boys' Working Reserve. The Reserve is a wonderful school for the boy, and a wonderful help for the farmer."—Oliver Wilson, Master of the National Grange.

"The Boys' Working Reserve has an obligation to keep the boy in school. . . . The hope of humanity will be found in the consecration and education of the youth of the United States."—George S. Strayer, President of National Educational Association.

"We must not waste our National boyhood."—William E. Hall, National Director, B. W. R.

"I hope you may be able to enlist in the Boys' Working Reserve many thousands of boys from city and town."—P. P. Claxton, United States Commissioner of Education.

"Any man or boy who helps to grow or harvest a crop is helping the United States in its big job of feeding the world."—George Ade, author.

"I wish to express my hearty and unreserved support of the Boys' Working Reserve and to include boys between the ages of 16 and 21 who ordinarily would not be in productive labor, and who can be turned into workers on the farm. The farmer has been prompt to recognize that the strong healthy boy is a tremendous help at this time. One of the great benefits conferred is that of making the boy realize that he is a part of Uncle Sam's team, and that he is doing his share in this great war and that he holds his services in trust for the Nation."—Theodore Roosevelt.



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FEDERAL STATE DIRECTORS OF THE U. S. BOYS' WORKING RESERVE.

ALABAMA	W. Nash Read, Hazel Hedge, Montgomery
ALASKA	R. E. Robertson, Juneau
ARIZONA	Lindley B. Orme, Phoenix
ARKANSAS	W. J. Jernigan, Little Rock
CALIFORNIA	B. H. Crocheron, University of California
COLORADO	Hon. E. C. Stimson, Berkeley
CONNECTICUT	W. D. Hood, State Capitol, Hartford
DELAWARE	Charles Warner, Old Federal Building, Wilmington
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	Robert C. Howard, Wilkins Building, Washington
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SOUTH DAKOTA	Paul J. Searbro, Brookings
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WEST VIRGINIA	Charles H. Winkler, Morgantown
WISCONSIN	H. N. Goddard, State Capitol, Madison
WYOMING	Edward F. Taylor, Cheyenne
HAWAII	W. R. Farrington, 125 Merchant Street, Honolulu

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